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## IN THE CLAIMS

and

1. (Previously Presented) A method of customizing a rule-based application, the method comprising:

designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template; compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset;

parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a customizable template.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.
- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising customizing said element.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a variable.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a rule.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a ruleset.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.
- 9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising generating a customized ruleset from the customizable ruleset template.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling customization in a deployment environment.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling customization in a development environment.

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- 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising re-editing a previously generated rule.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a new ruleset is generated from a customizable ruleset template, and a pre-existing customizable rule template is associated with said new ruleset and is unchanged.
- 14. (Previously Presented) A system for customizing a rule-based application, the system comprising:

means for designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template;

means for compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset; and

means for parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a customizable template.

- 15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.
- 16. (Cancelled)
- 17. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for customizing said element.
- 18. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a variable.
- 19. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a rule.
- 20. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a ruleset.

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- 21. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for generating a customized ruleset from said customizable ruleset template.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for enabling customization in a deployment environment.
- 24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for enabling customization in a development environment.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for reediting a previously generated rule.
- 26. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable media for storing software instructions for customizing a rule-based application, which when executed by a processor perform the steps of:

designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template; compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset; storing said ruleset; and

parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a customizable template.

- 27. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 28, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.
- 28. (Cancelled)

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- 29. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said instructions further performing the step of customizing said element.
- 30. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said instructions further performing the step of designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.
- 31. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 30, wherein said instructions further performing the step of generating a customized ruleset from the customizable ruleset template.